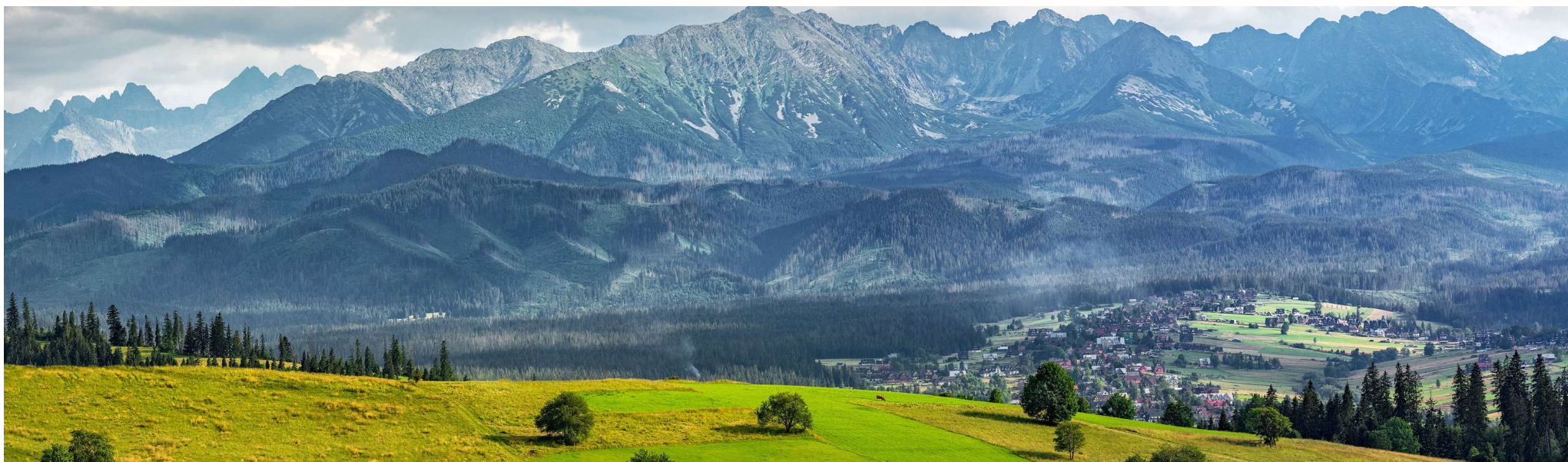


Carpathian Convention Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development – general information

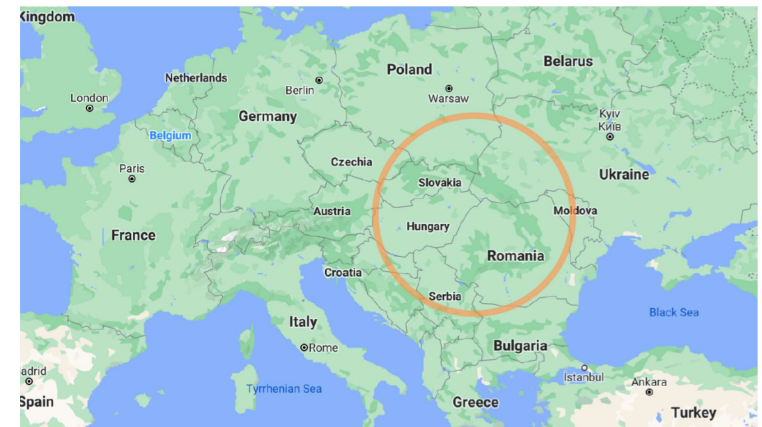
6th meeting of the CC Working Group on SARD, 26-27 April 2023

UNEP Vienna Programme Office - Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention



Carpathians at glance

- One of Europe's largest and longest mountain ranges
- Shared by 7 countries : Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Ukraine
- Providing **essential ecosystem services and goods** for 17 million of inhabitants
- Europe's last great wildernesses areas with **exceptional levels of biodiversity**
- Hosting largest remaining stands of **primeval and old-growth forests** of Europe
- Over 50% of the territory natural and semi-natural forests
- Habitat for large European **populations of brown bears, wolves, and lynxes**
- **Home to headwaters of major rivers:** Vistula and the Dniester and the relevant tributaries
- Exceptional **cultural heritage** as distinguishing feature of the region in Europe and globally



Carpathian Convention

Initiated by Ukraine in 2001

UN Environment Programme requested to facilitate the intergovernmental consultation process among the countries

Adopted and signed on 22 May 2003 at the Fifth Ministerial Conference „Environment for Europe” Kiev, Ukraine

Entered in force on 4 January 2006

Ratified by all the seven Carpathian countries, as:

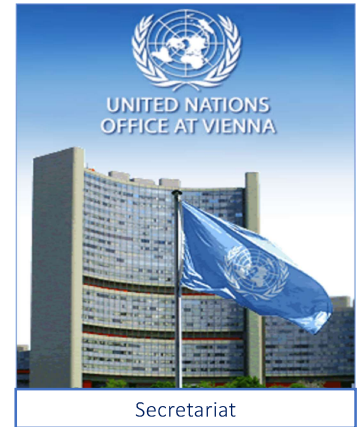
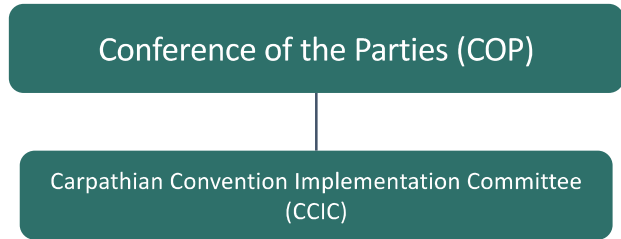
- framework Convention for cooperation and multi-sectoral policy coordination
- platform for joint strategies for sustainable development
- forum for dialogue between all stakeholders involved

Since 2004, UNEP Vienna Office provides the Secretariat for the Carpathian Convention

GOAL: Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathian Region



Institutional Structure





Protocol on
Conservation and
Sustainable Use of
Biological and
Landscape Diversity


Protocol on
Sustainable Tourism


Protocol on
Sustainable Forest
Management


Protocol on
Sustainable Transport


Protocol on
Sustainable
Agriculture and Rural
Development

 Protocol in place

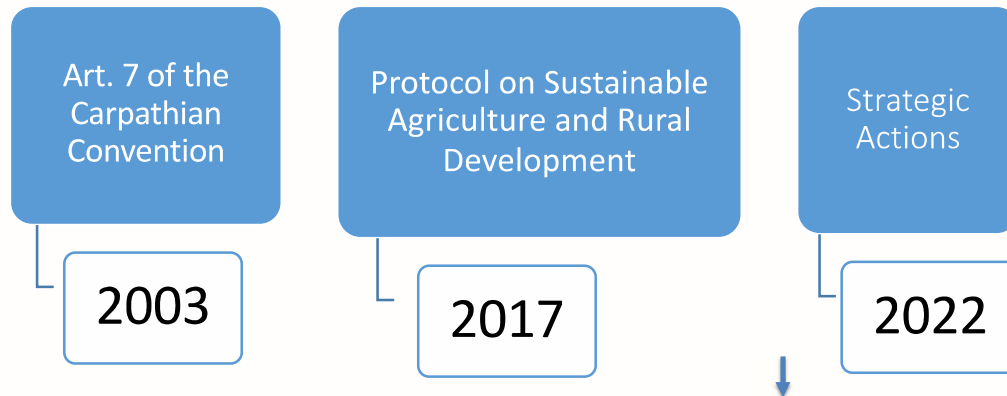
Working Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

Established by the 1st Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP1/7 para 3) in 2006

General tasks of the WG SARD since 2006 :

- supporting the Parties to the Carpathian Convention towards their cooperation for the implementation of Article 7 on sustainable agriculture and forestry and other related Articles of the Carpathian Convention
- providing recommendations for possible development of a draft Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) for the Carpathian region

Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development - implementation structure within the Carpathian Convention



1. Best practices models: Short food supply chains – Farm to fork
2. Quality schemes and certification of „Mountain Products”
3. Associations for farmers and food producers in the mountain area - benefits and best practice models



Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development to the Framework Convention on Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

COUNTRY	SIGNATURE	NATIONAL RATIFICATION, ACCESSION, ACCEPTANCE OR APPROVAL	DEPOSIT OF INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION	ENTRY INTO FORCE
	16 March 2018		2 October 2019	1 January 2020
	12 October 2017	24 May 2018		1 January 2020
	22 May 2018	24 July 2019	25 July 2019	1 January 2020
	12 October 2017	14 October 2020	21 October 2020	18 January 2021
				
		21 December 2018	29 December 2018	1 January 2020
		2 December 2020	29 January 2021	28 April 2021

Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD Protocol) - development process

- Background analysis and documentation as basis for the development of the Carpathian Convention Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development Protocol – prepared in cooperation with Eurac Research
- 3rd Meeting of the Working Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, 2015 in Stara Planina, Serbia
- Followed by written consultation
- **SARD Protocol adopted at the COP5, 2017, Lillafured, Hungary**
- Ratification process by the Parties
- 4th Meeting of the WG on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, 2018 in Vatra Dornei, Romania – initial discussion on priority topics for the SARD Protocol implementation

Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD Protocol) - structure and provisions

➤ Preamble

➤ Chapter I OBJECTIVES, GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS

Article 1 - Objectives and principles

Article 2 - Geographical Scope

Article 3 - Definitions

➤ CHAPTER II GENERAL OBLIGATIONS

Article 4 - Policies aiming at maintaining, promoting and sustainably developing the agricultural sector and rural areas

Article 5 - Integration of the objectives of sustainable development of the agricultural sector and rural areas into sectoral policies

Article 6 - Participation of regional and local authorities and other stakeholders

Article 7 - International cooperation

Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD Protocol) - structure and provisions

➤ CHAPTER III SPECIFIC MEASURES

Article 8 - Implementation of site-specific rural development strategies

Article 9 - **Protection and management of traditional cultural landscapes**

Article 10 - Integrated land resource management

Article 11 - Promotion of extensive farming and organic production

Article 12 - **Traditional knowledge and practices**

Article 13 - **Marketing of typical agricultural and rural products and services**

Article 14 - Promotion of agritourism and diversification

Article 15 - Prevention of adverse impacts on air, water, soil, landscape and biological diversity

Article 16 - **Promotion of formal and informal education**

Article 17 - Coordinated scientific research and trans-boundary exchange of information and experience

Article 18 - **Common programs and projects**

Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD Protocol) - structure and provisions

➤ **CHAPTER IV** IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- Article 19 - Implementation
- Article 20 - Awareness raising and access to information
- Article 21 - Meeting of the Parties
- Article 22 - Secretariat
- Article 23 - Subsidiary bodies
- Article 24 - Monitoring of compliance with obligations
- Article 25 - Evaluation of the effectiveness of the provisions

➤ **CHAPTER V** FINAL PROVISIONS

- Article 26 - Links between the Carpathian Convention and the Protocol
- Article 27 – Reservations
- Article 28 - Depositary



Thank you for your
attention!

UNEP Vienna Programme Office
Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

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www.unenvironment.org